

Planned PG&E Power Outages

Central Marin Neighborhood Response Group Program is adding a third emergency event for NRGs to plan for and check in on their resident members.

With the mission of “Neighbor Helping Neighbor” and “Let No Neighbor Be Overlooked”, please share these additional duties and work out a policy with your NRG block captains, steering committee and resident members.

PG&E’s new wildfire safety policy (2018) is to turn off power lines for a minimum of 3-5 days to large swaths of areas if **certain** high-risk fire (“Red Flag Day”) conditions exist. Not all Red Flag Day conditions warrant a planned power outage. Typically, PG&E will plan an outage to prevent the quick spread of wildfire, only on certain Red Flag Days with constant 25 mph winds, gusting to 45 mph, etc.). See [FIREsafeMARIN.org/ fire-weather](https://www.firesafemarlin.org/fire-weather) for more information on Red Flag Day Warnings or active Red Flag Conditions, as well as how to check how to check if such conditions exist. PG&E has a flyer

NRG Steering Committee Policies: Each NRG community should decide on how they will check on special needs neighbors in this type of prolonged power outage event. Will there be a plan to turn on your NRG designated radio channel at a certain hour or time period if the electricity is out and cell power is out, so block captains can check in via radio to report on the status of any special needs neighbors in their clusters? Should block captains call 9-1-1 directly or is there a directory of back up power resources in the NRG to help out? Does the NRG plan to purchase a generator and power medical equipment or a refrigerator for special needs neighbors for this type of event and potential major earthquake/flood?

Please convene and share how your NRG members led by the steering committee plan to check on your neighbors dependent on PG&E power for life threatening situations. How will you keep a list of special needs neighbors to make sure they are not overlooked when block captains are home to check on their cluster?

Block Captain [“BC”] Duties:

1. Preparation/Build out Phase: As you make your resident visits, please prepare residents that live alone, are susceptible to heatstroke /extreme cold or rely on power for medical reasons, to prepare battery backup systems (grounded generators), car garage door battery backup systems, etc. Make sure such neighbors sign up for PG&E planned outage alerts. Update neighbors in your cluster of this new event to prepare for.

2. During an Active Power Outage: BCs and neighbors should share PG&E planned outage alerts with neighbors who may need to make alternative power plans asap.

BCs, please check on neighbors with special needs during an active PG&E Outage to make sure they are okay. If you aren’t home, ask someone from your steering committee or another neighbor to send someone to check on any special needs neighbors. Will you knock on your

neighbors' doors to check in on them? Contact them via landline if possible? Call 9-1-1 if you can't get a hold of your neighbor who needs to refrigerate their insulin?

Residents: All Marin residents should sign up for PG&E planned outage alerts in addition to 1) Alertmarin.org, 2) Nixle.com. [See Sign up for Alerts Flyer for detailed instructions.](#)

If you live alone, aren't technologically savvy with mobile devices, etc., rely on electricity to power your medical equipment, or refrigerate your medicines, or just want someone to check in on you, please ask your block captain(s) to check on you.

Prepare now:

- **Update your contact information** with your local energy company
- **Identify backup charging methods** for phones and keep hard copies of emergency numbers
- **Plan for any medical needs** like medications that need to be refrigerated or devices that require power
- **Plan for the needs of pets and livestock**
- **Build or restock your emergency kit** with flashlights, fresh batteries, first aid supplies and cash
- **Designate an emergency meeting location**
- **Know how to manually open your garage door**
- **Ensure any backup generators are ready to safely operate**
- **Identify the unique needs of your family and loved ones in the area for your emergency plan**
- install back up power to last 3-5 days. Or make plans to stay with someone in the event you need electricity and your power is out.
- Sign up for alerts for PGE planned outages now.
- Please let neighbors and block captain(s) know when you will be out of town.

PG&E Medical Baseline – Provides financial assistance to customers who have special energy needs due to certain qualifying medication conditions.

If you would like to enroll in the programs mentioned above, make payment arrangements, or if you have any questions, please call PG&E at [1-800-743-5000](tel:1-800-743-5000) 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.